MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 14, 15, and 16,1926.

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1927 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on October 14, 15 and 16, 1926.

The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Mowbray,
Mr. Medary,
Mr. Garfield,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held September 16, 1926, were approved.

2. COAST GUARD WORLD WAR MEMORIAL: Rear Admiral F. C. Billard,Commandant of the Coast Guard, accompanied by Commander W. J. Wheeler and Commander F. A. Hunnewell, appeared before the Commission with a revised plan for the Coast Guard World War Memorial, designed by Mr. George Howe, Architect, of the firm of Mellor, Meigs and Howe, Philadelphia, who was also present. The design consisted of a pyramid, about 11 feet on a side, in front of which there will be a sea gull, of exquisite design, by Gaston Lachaise, sculptor, of New York City. The memorial is to be erected in the Arlington National Cemetery near the "Dewey Mausoleum".

Mr. Howe explained the design, saying that it was suggested to him by recollections of his boyhood days on the coast of Maine and Massachusetts, when he used to look out on the ocean and see a mile and a half or so from shore

ledges of rock with projections above the water like beacons, always the same day in and day out, and sea gulls lighting on them. The design submitted is to idealize that scene, and Mr. Howe said he regarded it particularly appropriate for a memorial to the Coast Guard, who continually guard the sea coast of the United States, night and day, under all conditions. Commander Wheeler said the Coast Guard World War Memorial Committee had accepted the design, subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Mr. Medary said he had seen the original figure of this sea gull, shown in a photograph, in the home of Mr. Arthur Meigs, Philadelphia, member of the firm, and knew it to be of exquisite design. Mr. Garfield said he liked it because it looked "fishy". In the revised design the element of the fountain, heretofore suggested, has been omitted, and this was agreeable to the Commission. The question of up-keep of the fountain, and the fact that the Coast Guard sails the wide seas, so that a fountain would seem insignificant to represent the Coast Guard, were reasons given by Mr. Howe for finally omitting the fountain feature. The Commission concurred in the suggestion that the composition of "pyramid" and sea gull is sufficient. The "pyramid" is to set on an inverted disk to represent the waves.

For the landscape treatment it is proposed to have tall cedars for the background, with low planting in front of them so as to give a good setting,- as laurel, rhododendrons and the euonymus. A specific area has been assigned by the War Department to this memorial. Details are to be worked out in cooperation with the Office of the Quartermaster General.

The design was approved, subject to such modifications as may be found desirable in carrying out the project. The Commission did not favor posts and railing to enclose the memorial. Mr. Howe was asked to prepare a landscape plan for the memorial (Exhibit A).

3. BIRD HOUSE, ZOOLOGICAL PARK: Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, submitted a design for the new Bird House to be erected in the Zoological Park. The design called for a large building, unlike any that are now in the park, and in this respect Mr. Harris said it will "set a pace" for other buildings to be built there;--most of the buildings there now are of stucco and wood.

Mr. Medary and Mr. Garfield called attention to the corbelled arch supported by columns. As such an arch suggests a support in itself, Mr.Harris was asked to lower the columns and work the arch into them. Otherwise the design was regarded satisfactory and approved.

4. MATERIAL FOR THE DISTRICT JAIL: Mr. Harris reported that in view of urgent request on the part of the District Commissioners for advice as to whether stone or brick should be used for the proposed addition to the District Jail, he had taken it up directly with Mr. Medary, who had recommended using stone. The Commission concurred in this recommendation.

5. CHAPELS FOR THE AMERICAN CEMETERIES IN EUROPE: The American Battle Monuments Commission, through Major X. H. Price, Secretary, submitted plans for chapels for the American Cemeteries in Europe, which he brought to the attention of the Commission informally at the meeting on September 16th, for Somme (Bony), prepared by Mellor, Meigs and Howe; Thiaucourt, by Thomas Harlan Ellett; Waereghem, Belgium (Flanders Field), by Dr. Paul Cret; Romagne, by York and Sawyer; Aisne Marne (Belleau Wood), by Cram and Ferguson; Oisne Aisne (Fere en Tardenois), by Cram and Ferguson, and Brookwood, by Egerton Swartwout. The Commission considered the designs with Dr. Cret, and Major Price, who attended the meeting, at the request of the Chairman. At least two designs for each cemetery had been called for from each designer by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The designs were regarded preliminary and were intended to call

forth such criticism as would indicate to the architects the type of memorial chapel which would be suitable for the respective cemeteries. An ecclesiastical type of architecture was not favored. Due regard was given to the size of the cemeteries and to their location.

At the request of the Chairman, Major Grant and Mr. Charles W. Eliot, Landscape Architect and City Planner, attended the meetings and took part in the discussion of the plans.

A report was made to the American Battle Monuments Commission on the designs for each cemetery submitted (Exhibit B, C, D, E, F, G, H).

Dr. Cret submitted designs for a World War Memorial to be erected at Chateau Thierry. Design A called for a monumental structure, with a colonnade treatment for the facade and a simple entablature, with some sculpture in relief. This was favored by the Commission and approved (Exhibit I).

During the discussion of the plans the question of World War Headstones for the American Cemeteries in Europe arose. Mr. Moore asked Dr. Cret how he felt about the headstones,--"This Commission felt when you come to translate a board cross into a stone cross you destroy what the people were thinking of and it makes a disturbance in the green grass. We are strongly in favor of keeping the design the same as the headstones in this country." Dr. Cret replied:"I have been specifically instructed to submit a design for a cross exactly like the cross in Europe". Thereupon Mr. Olmsted said, "Why not make them of red wood? If they want them for sentimental reasons they should make them of redwood material,-it is indefinitely durable. Major Price stated: "The American Battle Monuments Commission regards the question settled. They have decided finally to use Carrara Marble. The award was made to the lowest bidder, and it is understood the Secretary of War will sign the contract

in a few days. Our Commission is absolutely unanimous on the cross. We have had many letters asking that instead of the wooden cross the marble cross be provided, since it is regarded a more permanent marker. It is estimated the marble cross will last for a period of 60 years. We have had Hearings on the subject, and every ex-service organization is in favor of the cross."

6. ROCK CREEK AND POTOMAC PARKWAY: Under date of September 22, Major Grant submitted the following copy of a letter which he received from Mr. Olmsted regarding the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway for the consideration of the Commission at this meeting,-- Mr. Olmsted and Major Grant, also Mr. I.W. Payne, Landscape Architect of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, were present:

A. C. L. Ry.,
August 26, 1926.

"Dear Major Grant:

In connection with the recommendation of a swimming pool in Rock Creek Parkway near the N Street Junior High School, I think there should be a fairly prompt agreement between the Office of Public Buildings and Parks, the Fine Arts Commission and the Planning Commission as to the revision and completion of the plans for the parkway.

I hope you will be able to present to the Commission of Fine Arts at its September meeting, with an expression of regret from me that I am unable to present it in person, a statement of my deliberate personal conviction after study on the ground:

1. That the border road along the easterly side of the parkway hitherto proposed, should be omitted from Pennsylvania Avenue to a point south of Massachusetts Avenue, approximately opposite California Street, because it would cause the destruction of many important existing trees forming the natural enframement of the valley scenery and would otherwise impair the public value of the parkway and add to its cost without compensating advantages;

2. That the two proposed entrance roads as shown on the plans slanting down the present wooded bank between 23rd Street and 26th Street should be omitted for similar reasons, and that if any entrance to the main drive is to be provided in the vicinity, it should descend on a direct line substantially at right angles to the bank through a walled cut and over a sloping bridge opposite 23rd Street.

3. That the proposed border road on the west bank from Q Street to Olive Street should be omitted except that a connection should be provided from O Street to P Street and provision should be made on the highway plan for a connection from P to Q Street at such time as the situation may demand it.

"I would call to your attention as Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks the letter which I wrote to the Commission of Fine Arts on the subject of the Rock Creek Parkway Plans when, at the request of that Commission last year, I made a hurried examination of the plans and the terrain in company with Mr. Moore and Mr. Coldren. If you would direct Mr. Payne to make preparations for the detailed and presumably final restudy in pencil of the Parkway Plans, at the scale of forty feet to the inch and in exact adjustment to the details of the original topographic map on that scale, as suggested in my letter to the Commission of Fine Arts, I should be glad to give him some help at the time of my next visit to Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick Law Olmsted."

The Commission considered with Major Grant and Mr. Olmsted his recommendations above stated. The Commission called attention to the detailed report which had been submitted to the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks on October 22, 1925, which was made after a personal inspection of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway by Mr. Olmsted and the Commission. The border road, so it was decided, should be eliminated on both sides of the ravine from the Q Street Bridge to the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge. This, Major Grant said, will result in the saving of a considerable sum of money which has been appropriated for the Parkway. Commenting on the elimination of this border road, Mr. Olmsted said that it was intended to have a border road on both sides of the Parkway in addition to the main drive down in the valley. In going over the ground some time ago it seemed to him attention was called to it at two particular points,--at the Q Street Bridge and at the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge. The bank included within the taking line, he said, is now quite beautifully wooded, very steep and there are few buildings, so that if the border road were built it would mean taking out trees and bringing to view unsightly backs of houses, eliminating the border road at 24th and N Streets, the site of a proposed school building, will be in the interests of the building and will not detract from the parkway.

Mr. Olmsted said on the west side of the Parkway, from O Street to P Street

there is need for a connection because these are narrow streets in Georgetown. For traffic requirements O Street ought to be connected with P Street. Otherwise the border roads on both sides of the valley from the Q Street Bridge to the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge are to be eliminated. The Commission approved this suggestion of Mr. Olmsted, and also the recommendation made as to entrance roads between 23d and 26th Streets.

Mr. Moore said that it seemed to him there were too many roads planned to go into the Parkway and that consideration should be given to roads crossing it. Major Grant felt likewise, and said the question would receive attention in the study of traffic problems in the locality. Mr. Olmsted said when it comes to high level roads along the Parkway, for example at Belmont Street, near the Calvert Street Bridge, this should be carried on a retaining wall and not by attempting great fills into the trees which are on the slopes of the valley.

Mr. Olmsted was assured by Major Grant that the plan he called for would be made, and Mr. Olmsted instructed Mr. Payne as to how he should proceed in the matter of grades and profiles.

Major Grant said he was asking $100,000 to construct the sea wall necessary for the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway along the river.

7. IMPROVED AND ENLARGED QUARTERS FOR THE PATENT OFFICE: The secretary submitted a Memorandum on the subject of Improved and Enlarged quarters for the Patent Office, made pursuant to correspondence received from the American Engineering Council, with headquarters in Washington, urging that this be provided (Exhibit J). The Commission took the matter under advisement, being a subject to be considered with the Public Buildings Commission in connection with the Public Buildings Program.

8. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR FOUNTAIN SQUARE, CINCINNATI: Under date of

October 8, 1926, the following letter was received from Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill, City Manager of Cincinnati, asking advice as to a proposed landscape treatment for Fountain Square in that city:

> "I enclose, herewith, a sketch of the proposed treatment of Fountain Square in this City at the present time. The additions proposed consist of the turf panels with improvements of the tree boxes to secure a better growth.
>
> At present Fountain Square is a raised terrace about two and one-half feet above the street, which is lined on all four sides with closely built up business houses fronting the street.
>
> The Fountain is a very handsome and artistic specimen of bronze, by Tylor-Davidson.
>
> I would be very glad to have the views of the Fine Arts Commission as to the propriety of introducing the panels of turf, giving something of a mall effect in this composition.
>
> Any other suggestion that the Commission may have to offer in reference to this matter will be gladly received.
>
> In my recent brief visit to Washington I was glad to note continued activity in the beautification of the City."

The Commission advised that they regard the panels of turf as proposed in the design very suitable, provided they are well kept and the public is kept from walking on them and using them as a thoroughfare,--in such case it would be better to use small shrubbery. (Exhibit K).

9. JOHN ADAMS AND JOHN QUINCY ADAMS MEMORIAL: Mr. Moore stated that by letter dated October 5th he was informed by Bruce W. Saville, sculptor, as to the John Adams and John Quincy Adams Memorial, as follows:

> "In the matter of the memorial to John Adams and John Quincy Adams, to be erected at Quincy, Massachusetts, I have received the decision of the Fine Arts Commission regarding the first design submitted for this memorial. The decision was gratifying inasmuch as it enabled me to get rid of the boulder ~~xxxxxx~~ as a background for the memorial feature. Without question, the stone should have an architectural form and I am, of course, most desirous of cooperating with the Fine Arts Commission in so far as the fund available for this memorial will permit. After corresponding with the Quincy Committee, I have been informed that they will approve any design acceptable to the Fine Arts Commission. The problem is being restudied and the drawings will be ready shortly.---"

Mr. Moore said that since receiving the letter, Mr. Saville had called on him in Washington, and the Commission can be assured of a satisfactory design.

10. POLICE COURT BUILDING: Under date of September 16, 1926, a letter was received from Hon. Gus. A. Schuldt, Presiding Judge of the Police and Traffic Courts, quoting from the Evening Star that the Commission of Fine Arts is considering placing the Police Court Building at Four-and-a-half Street and Louisiana Avenue, after conference with Chief Justice McCoy, also that:--

> "The Commission will consider the advisability of having the new Police Court Building built large enough to house also the entire Police Department. They feel that it certainly must be large enough to house all such related agencies as the Police Women's Bureau."

Judge Schuldt strongly objected to combining the Police Court and the Police Department in one building. By letter dated June 18, 1926, the Commission of Fine Arts had reported to Senator Capper, Chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, that a suggested site in Judiciary Square, facing Fifth Street, would be acceptable, and Judge Schuldt stated that he therefore regarded the matter as settled, since Congress had enacted legislation providing for the building (Public No.515, 69th Congress), "An Act Providing for an additional building for the use of the Police Court in the District of Columbia:

> BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia be authorized and instructed to enter into contracts for the erection of a building for the use of the police court of the District of Columbia: PROVIDED, That the location, plans, and specifications for such building shall be approved by the Fine Arts Commission and by the chief justices of said police courts and Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.
>
> SEC. 2. That there is hereby authorized an appropriation for the erection of said building to be appropriated in like manner as other expenses of the District of Columbia. Approved July 3, 1926".

A conference was arranged with Chief Justice McCoy and Judge Schuldt, which took place late in the afternoon of October 14th in Chief Justice McCoy's office. Mr. Moore informed the Chief Justice that since the

site in Judiciary Square was recommended for the Police Court Building there has been considerable protest against placing it there, since it would take away park area; and in view of the letter received from Judge Schuldt it seemed best to consider this matter further.

Judge Schuldt replied he was certain the legislation (above quoted) was enacted with the idea that the Police Court Building would be placed in Judiciary Square, and if it is not to be erected there, the building should be built near the present District Supreme Court Building, but a site would then have to be purchased (possibly along Louisiana Avenue) by Congress.

The Commission felt that the residents of the community might be justified in not wanting park area taken up for this building, but on the other hand if no further court building is to be erected in Judiciary Square, it would be impossible to carry out the recommendation of the Senate Park Commission of 1901 that Judiciary Square be developed into an "Inns of Court", and a site would have to be purchased. The Commission made an inspection of the grounds with Chief Justice McCoy and Judge Schuldt, during which the Fifth Street site was again visited. Attention was then called to the site east of the present District Supreme Court Building, where a building could be erected to balance the present Court of Appeals to the west of the main building. It was agreed that Mr. Harris, the Municipal Architect, should make a tentative sketch, on the basis of dimensions furnished by Judge Schuldt, for the proposed new building on this site and that members of the Senate District Committee should be consulted on the question of whether the legislation mentioned was enacted with the intention that Judiciary Square should be the site for the new building or not; and that the Commission would meet with the District Court Judges to consider this matter further on November 23, at 4:00 o'clock, in Chief Justice McCoy's office.

11. UNITED STATES FLAG STANDARDIZATION: On Friday, October 16th, Mr. Mowbray, accompanied by Mr. Caemmerer, went to the Bureau of Standards, to inquire as to the progress made in the selection of red and blue dyes for a standard United States Flag. A conference was held with Dr. George K. Burgess, Director, Mr. W. D. Appel, Dye Expert, and Mr. I. G. Priest, Color Expert, on the subject. Mr. Appel submitted samples of red and blue cloth which he had subjected to tests during the past few months but said he had not completed the work. Mr. Appel submitted, among a number of sampled of red, a Polar Red and Mr. Mowbrayx said he was entirely satisfied with it. Among samples of blue submitted, a Ciba Blue 2 B was favored, but Mr. Appel said information given him by the Navy Department and some business concerns is to the effect that blue cloth made according to this sample would cost 17 cents more per yard, which would make its production prohibitive, in view of the fact also that manufacturers would feel required to manufacture this cloth as special stock. Mr. Mowbray said he felt it of prime importance that a red and blue be selected of proper standard, in view of the poor color in flags generally used at present, particularly those which are seen hoisted from the tops of buildings. Mr. Caemmerer said the Commission of Fine Arts maintains the question of cost as being secondary to a flag of the right standard, to which Dr. Burgess added that if a standard flag with the right colors is adopted the quantity of production in time would tend to reduce the cost of production.

It was agreed that Mr. Appel and Mr. Priest should conduct tests of the samples selected, and give the matter study, with a view to a further conference if possible at the next meeting of the Commission on November 23d.

12. FORT SLOCUM: Under date of September 29th, the Commission received the following letter from Major U. S. Grant 3d, Executive and Disbursing Officer of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts asto the purchase the tract designated as Fort Slocum:

> "The National Capital Park and Planning Commission desires to acquire for park purposes, either by purchase or condemnation, the tract designated as Fort Slocum Park, including the area bounded on the north by Oglethorpe Street, on the west by Third Street, on the south by Madison Street, on the southeast by Kansas Avenue and on the northeast by a new street running from the circle of Kansas Avenue to the corner of Second and Oglethorpe Streets.
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> The advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to such acquisition is requested."

The Commission made an inspection of the site, and approved its purachase as a part of the proposed Fort Drive, which is to connect Anacostia Park with Rock Creek Park (Exhibit L).

13. FORT STANTON: Under date of September 20th, the following letter was received from Major U. S. Grant 3d, Executive and Disbursing Officer of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to the purchase of the site of Fort Stanton:

> "The National Capital Park and Planning Commission favors the acquisition for park purposes of the site of Fort Stanton, in Anacostia, including lots 6 to 20, inclusive, in Square 5815; lots 1 to 8, inclusive, in Square 5817; and lots 7 to 8 in Square 5818.
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> This area was included in the tracts recommended by the Park Commission of 1901.
>
> This Fort is especially well preserved, with remnants of the masonry entrances to the magazine and includes a remarkably fine view overlooking the rivers and the city of Washington.
>
> The question of its acquisition is submitted for the views of the Commission of Fine Arts."

The Commission made an inspection of the site, which is best reached from the Anacostia Bridge via Nichols Avenue and the Morris Road, and found

that the area contemplated for purchase comprises about 8 acres. Parts of the old fort are still preserved, and from the hill a magnificent view of the city and the rivers is obtained. Purchase of the reservation was approved, and it was suggested at the same time that in the development of the project a more direct drive or parkway be provided from Nichols Avenue (Exhibit M).

14. BRIDGE FOR LAFAYETTE NATIONAL PARK, MAINE: Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Acting Director of the National Park Service, presented alternative plans for the proposed bridge to be constructed within the Lafayette National Park in Maine. These exhibits comprised an original design by Mr. Welles Bosworth, Architect, of New York City, for his client, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who is planning to build this bridge; a revision of this design suggested by the Landscape Architectural Department of the National Park Service; and a restudy by Mr. Bosworth of his original design, having in mind the suggestions and the design of the Landscape Architectural Department. Mr. Medary was appointed a committee with power, and as he had been in Lafayette National Park some years ago and was acquainted with the topography, he felt that both the original and the revision of the original prepared by the architect were not as satisfactory for location in this national park as the design of the Landscape Architectural Department, it being his opinion that the latter had more character and fitted better into the landscape than any of the designs, the former being more fitted for a city park or a private estate.

15. MOUNT VERNON BOULEVARD AND WAKEFIELD: On Saturday, October 16th, members of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and of the Commission of Fine Arts left Washington at 8:00 a.m. on the United States Engineers boat, in charge of Major Brehon B. Somervell, Corps of Engineers, for an inspection trip down the Potomac River to Wakefield, Virginia. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission was represented by Major General Edgar Jadwin, Chairman, Chief of Engineers, Lieut. Col. J. Franklin Bell, Engineer Commissioner of the District of Columbia, Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Mr. J. C. Nichols, of Kansas City, Hon. Stephen T. Mather, Director of the National Park Service, Mr. Frederic A. Delano, of Washington, Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., Major U. S. Grant 3d, Executive Officer, Major Carey H. Brown, Engineer, and Mr. F. G. Coldren, Secretary. In addition to Mr. Medary, who is a member of both Commissions, the Commission of Fine Arts was represented by Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman, Mr. H. Siddons Mowbray, and Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary. Mr. Edward A. Schmitt of the United States Engineers Office assisted Major Somervell on the trip.

At the beginning of the trip the Washington Waterfront was considered and attention was called to the plans which have been approved for the development of this project, and which are to be presented to Congress by the United States Engineers Office at the coming session. The plans involve an expenditure of $3,000,000, for a development from Seventh and P Streets northward along the shore line to Fourteenth Street, S.W. The plans provide for a parking space of 25 feet on the land side of the sea wall, which can be developed into a commercial street if business demands. Next to this would be a boulevard 48 feet wide, bordered by center parking, and next to this a city service street 48 feet wide to carry tracks with traffic lanes on each side of them. The height of the sea wall is to be 8½ feet, and the projected piers in the river would be of a slip type. Preliminary plans are for seven of these between Ninth and O Streets, space between Ninth and Fourteenth Street being held for further development in water front business.

The plans provide that the boulevard follow the shore line to the Anacostia. The "circle" heretofore suggested at 7th and L Streets, S.W. and the direct driveway from Water Street east to the Anacostia Park along either L or M Streets has therefore been eliminated from the plans for the present.

Between 200 and 320 feet are set as the extension lengths for docks into the Washington Channel and their head houses on Water Street would be two stories high and built of limestone and brick. A basin for yachts and other small boats between O and P Streets are included in the plans. There is to be a protecting breakwater of piling and an attractive walk to each of over 50 slips within the breakwater. The entire width of the street, between building lines, would be 160 feet. Colonel Bell said efforts would be made to "clean up" Water Street as quickly as possible.

Proceeding to Mount Vernon, an air map of the Mount Vernon Boulevard, prepared by the Bureau of Public Roads, Department of Agriculture, was studied. This map showed the surveys that had been made for a "Riverside Drive" from Washington, beginning at the Virginia terminus of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, through Alexandria to Mount Vernon, and for an alternate or back road.

Both the members of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and of the Commission of Fine Arts expressed their preference decidedly for

the Mount Vernon Boulevard along the shore line of the Potomac River, which would keep in view the historic river, and avoid the necessity of looking from a back road through a "smoke screen" to the river, because of the intervening freight yards.

Beginning at the Virginia terminus of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, the Mount Vernon Boulevard is to extend along the axis of Columbia Island and under the Virginia end of the Highway Bridge, swing down on the Virginia side of the District of Columbia and the Virginia boundary line at Hunters Point, along the bank between the Potomac Freight Yard and the river. The Boulevard is to cross Four Mile Run on a bridge. Going through Alexandria, the Boulevard will be in view of the new George Washington Masonic National Memorial (235 feet high, covering 35 acres, and built in the form of a ziggurat with seven stories, to cost $5,000,000), and will extend along Washington Street, which is near a number of places of great historic interest in Alexandria of George Washington's time. South of Alexandria the Boulevard will be east of the Washington, Virginia and Mount Vernon Electric Railroad, and will cross Hunting Creek on a bridge, from which it will be possible to see Jones Point, that marks the first corner stone of the District of Columbia, laid with appropriate ceremonies in 1791. After crossing Hunting Creek the Mount Vernon Boulevard is to pass Warwick and Wellington Villa, and thence go through Fort Hunt, which is to be preserved as part of the National Capital Park System, thence across a new bridge over Little Hunting Creek to Mount Vernon. The "Air Map" showed that part of the boulevard south of Hunting Creek somewhat back from the shore line, and Mr. Olmsted felt that this section should be made the subject of further study, with a view to bringing the Mount Vernon Boulevard still closer to the river. Mr. Coldren said in his opinion an old roadway exists along this section near the river.

The Mount Vernon Boulevard is to be 200 feet wide and, along the river, will be 14 miles in length; its estimated cost is from $5,000,000 to $7,000,000. It seems to have been first suggested in 1886 by Mr. M. B. Harlow, then treasurer of Alexandria, who thought of it as an "Appian Way" to connect the National Capital with Mount Vernon, the home and tomb of George Washington. The project has thus been before Congress for about 40 years, and has recently made headway under the leadership of Hon. R. Walton Moore, of Virginia, with a view to its completion by 1932, the Bicentennial of the Birthday of George Washington, for which by authority of Congress a special Commission has been appointed by the President.

At the special request of Mr. Mather the party stopped at Fort Washington, directly opposite Fort Hunt, for an inspection of the grounds. All the members were impressed with the admirable location and historic significance of Fort Washington, said to have been laid out by L'Enfant in 1800. Concerning them, House Report No.1379, 69th Congress, made by Representative Hill of Maryland, from the Committee on Military Affairs on June 4, 1926, to accompany H.R.12391, authorizing the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to acquire Fort Hunt, Va., and Fort Washington, Md., reports favorably on the acquirement of them,

for proper extension of the park system of the National Capital, as follows:

> "Fort Hunt is located in Fairfax County, Va., 16 miles below Washington, D.C. It is located on the Potomac River just across Little Hunting Creek from Mount Vernon. It was acquired by purchase from 1893 to 1896 at a cost of $45,526.87 and includes 197.413 acres. In House Report No.375, 69th Congress, first session, dated February 24, 1926, its estimated sales value is $178,281. The entire frontage on the Potomac River and Little Hunting Creek is forested, and a wharf located thereon presents a view up the river to Washington City and down the river to Mount Vernon.
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> "Fort Washington is located in Prince Georges County, Maryland, 14 miles south of Washington City. It consists of 354.30 acres. It was acquired by purchase and condemnation at various times between 1808 and 1914, at a cost of $38,117.60. The frontage on the Potomac River and Piscataway Creek is covered with fine forest, and an elevated plateau presents splendid views of the Potomac River and the Maryland embankment to Mount Vernon. Including a substantial wharf, the improvements at this station amount to $754,386. The present sales value is estimated in House Report No.374,Sixty-ninth Congress, first session, page 41, as $175,650."

The recent attempt on the part of the War Department to sell Fort Washington (and also Fort Hunt) was deplored, and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts will devote their best efforts to save these reservations for the park system of the National Capital. It was said that Fort Washington could well be used as part of the Engineers Training School, now located at Fort Humphreys (Belvoir, the home of Lord Fairfax), a short distance south of Mount Vernon. Near Fort Humphreys is Gunston Hall, the estate of George Mason, both of which would be in proximity to the Boulevard.

Mr. Mather called attention to the inlet on the south side of Fort Washington, and said the United States Bureau of Fisheries desires to relocate there, in preference to their present rented quarters further down the river. Concerning this the House Report above referred to (No.1379,69th Congress) states:

> "The United States Bureau of Fisheries formerly occupied a limited portion of the land near the river front but was removed to rented quarters farther down the river when this tract was entirely needed for military purposes. This bureau is anxious to return to this point, and if this were done its hatchery and fish ponds would add great interest in connection with its use as a park."

The report concludes:

> "---It is regarded as one of the most important features of the proposed park extension to acquire the tracts included in both these military reservations. This point constitutes the natural southern terminus of the Potomac boulevard in Maryland. From every standpoint it would seem extremely unfortunate to lose the opportunity of the preservation of such tracts for park and parkway purposes, and there is no question that if now sold the cost of acquiring them at a later period will be greatly in excess of the amount that can now be realized by their sale."

The beautiful view of Mount Vernon obtained from the river was much appreciated. Attention was also called to Marshall Hall, an old mansion opposite Mount Vernon, and which is now used as a summer resort, with steamers plying regularly between Washington by Mount Vernon to Marshall Hall.

Major Somervell was host at a dinner which he served on the boat to the great enjoyment of all. Thereupon the National Capital Park and Planning Commission met for a session to consider the question of location of the Farmers Market in Washington, and the Public Buildings Porgram as it pertained to city planning. A report recommending that the Government acquire the entire triangle bounded by First and Maryland Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue, Fifteenth Street, and B Street North, Northwest, was adopted.

The river trip ended at Colonial Beach, where automobiles awaited the party to take them to Wakefield, about 11 miles further down the river.

WAKEFIELD: Upon arriving at Wakefield, at about 4:30 p.m., an inspection was first made of the grounds where is located the Monument erected by the United States Government in 1896, a granite shaft, on a 11 acre tract adjacent to Pope's Creek and the Potomac. The Monument is said to mark the site of the birthplace of George Washington, and it is proposed in the development of the grounds to bring the foundations of the house to light. Beautiful cedar trees, fully 20 feet high, cover the grounds. Mr. Coldren said that when he was on the grounds 30 years ago no trees were there, and Major Somervell said there is no record that these cedars were ever planted at Wakefield, so that it can be well believed Nature has supplied them.

Mr. Moore said the Wakefield Memorial Association, of which he is Vice President, has purchased 77 acres adjoining the Government tract, and that it is proposed to purchase the original 1,000 acres of the estate of Augustine Washington, grandson of John Washington, the original settler. Mr. Moore also said that John Washington originally built a house at Bridges Creek, fully a mile further up the Potomac. This was a two-story house of the colonial type, and George Washington always referred to Bridges Creek as being his birthplace. Mr. Moore said the name Wakefield came two generations after Washington. The father built Mount Vernon for his ~~eldest~~ son Lawrence Washington, with a reversion to George. The "Cherry Tree" story came from Ferry Farm at Fredericksburg, to which the Washingtons moved after leaving Pope's Creek.

At Bridges Creek the Government constructed a wharf in 1894, which originally was 1,024 feet long and 16 feet wide, with a landing platform at the end 40 feet wide and 60 feet long. This wharf is now in ruin, having during the years been for the most part destroyed by ice and freshets. A road leads from the Pope's Creek site to Bridges Creek, and on approaching it, a short distance from the shore and from the road one comes to the old burial place of the Washingtons, where are the graves of certain four, probably six, generations of his family, unmarked, unidentified, overgrown with weeds and completely surrounded by plowed fields. It was thus found by the members of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, who visited it. Some of the old inscriptions on the tombs could be faintly traced. Mr. Moore said in 1858 Lewis W. Washington deeded to Virginia this family burying ground at the Great Quarter and also 60 feet square on which stood the

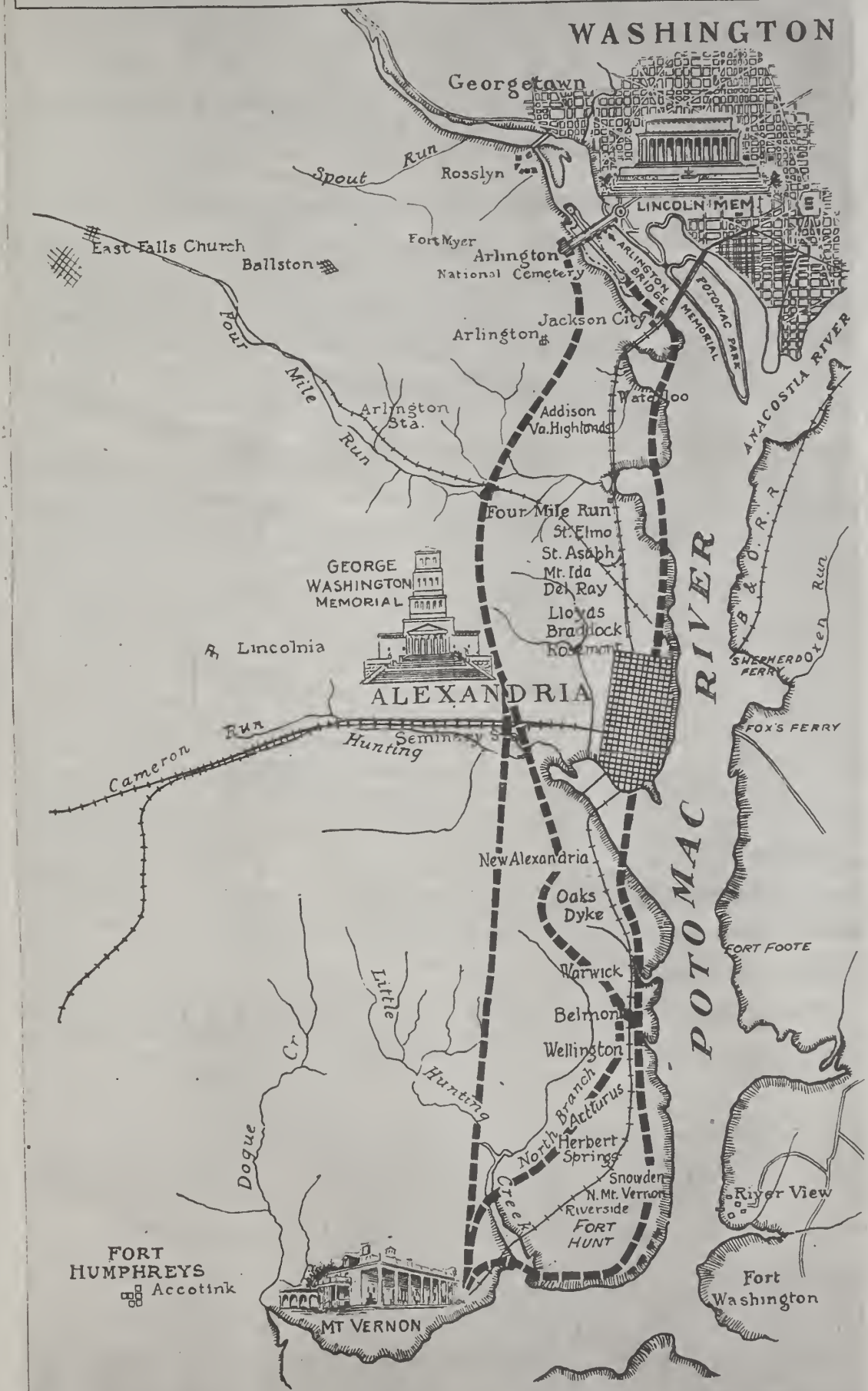
house in which General Washington was born, on condition that the places should be properly fenced and marked. Before anything was done by the State, the United States secured from Virginia, on April 21, 1882, the title to the birthplace, and eventually bought enough additional land to make up 11 acres out of the thousand and more acres owned and occupied by the Washingtons between Bridges Creek and Popes Creek. Rights of way to both creeks were secured. Whether by oversight or design the Government did not acquire the Washington burying ground, which still belongs to the State of Virginia, although the fact seems to have been wholly overlooked.

The Commissions recommended combining the Bridges Creek and Pope's Creek sites into one reservation, and this recommendation will be submitted to the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, which has begun plans for the celebration in 1932. The Commission felt that the monument at Pope's Creek should be relocated, but that little if anything be done to disturb the quiet and restful scenery which now marks this historic shrine. A formal treatment of the grounds was therefore disapproved, but the Commissions favored the erection of a caretaker's place and a rest house, at the future entrance to Wakefield--a site to be determined.

Leaving Wakefield at 5:30 p.m., the party reached Fredericksburg, about 45 miles distant, at 7:00 p.m., where dinner was had at the Princess Anne Hotel. This was followed by a short session of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, at which it was finally decided to recommend the relocation of the Farmers Market, by May 1, 1927, at (a) Eckington; (b) Southwest Waterfront; (c) Mid City site, at the 5th and K Street Market, N.W. Leaving Fredericksburg at 9:30 p.m., the trip to Washington, about 58 miles, was completed at 12:00 o'clock Midnight.

The Commission had as their guests at the luncheon on October 14th, Hon. Proctor L. Dougherty, Commissioner of the District of Columbia; Mr. Olmsted, Major Grant, Major Carey H. Brown, and Mr. Eliot, representing the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and Major Brehon Somervell, of the United States Engineers Office.

ROUTES STAKED OUT FOR BOULEVARD FROM ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE TO MT. VERNON TO BE BUILT BEFORE 1932



1810 October 8. William Augustine Washington's will proved in Washington, D. C.

Sons: Bushrod: lands in Westmoreland.
George Corbin: lands in Westmoreland (including graveyard and birthplace)

Wife: Sarah: lands in Westmoreland between Bushrod's and Corbin's.

Minors: Sarah Tayloe
William Augustine

1813 October 13. George Corbin Washington, of Georgetown, D.C., deeds to John Gray of Stafford Co. for £6,229. 10s. lands in parish of Washington, Westmoreland Co.; lands known as Wakefield, devised by his father, William Augustine Washington. He reserves the family burying ground at the Great Quarter and 60 feet square of ground on which the house stood in which General Washington was born.

1858 September 1. Lewis W. Washington, of Jefferson Co., Va., deeds to the State of Virginia the family burying ground at the Great Quarter, also sixty feet square on which stood the house in which General Washington was born. In his conveyance he recites that these reserved spots became his by the death of his father George C. Washington. He further recites that the General Assembly of Virginia, by Act of January 20, 1858, accepted his tender, and directed the Governor to comply with the conditions of the gift, viz.: to cause the sites to be permanently enclosed by an iron fence ~~bank~~ on stone foundation, and to mark the same by suitable and modest though substantial tablets.

1882 April 21. Two Acts of the Assembly of Virginia:

(a) Directing the Governor to convey to the United States the title of the Commonwealth to certain real estate in Westmoreland County , and ceding jurisdiction over the same.

The Act recites that whereas Lewis C. Washington did on September 1, 1858, convey to Virginia sixty feet square of ground on which the house stood in which General George Washington was born, and whereas on August 1, 1859, John E. Wilson conveyed to Virginia one acre of land or less so as to contain equal quantities of land on either side of the sixty feet, and did also convey to Virginia a certain quantity of land for a public road or highway from the birth-

1882 April 21. (a) (Continued)

place across the Wakefield estate; and whereas the Congress of the United States by joint resolution approved February 26, 1881, has appropriated $30,000. to erect a monument to mark the birthplace, therefore the Governor is authorized to convey to the United States the above real estate; but on condition that a monument be erected without unreasonable delay.

(b) Giving consent of Virginia to the purchase by the United States of two parcels of land for the purpose of erecting a monument (1) a roadway to Pope's Creek and adjacent lands, 11. $^{88}/_{1000}$ acres in all; and (2) a roadway to Bridges Creek, 19 $^{725}/_{10000}$ acres.

1882 July 18. The Attorney General, Benjamin Harris Brewster, in a letter to the Secretary of State, Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, transmits abstracts of title, deeds of conveyance and other papers relating to the birthplace of George Washington, which had been submitted to the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, as follows:

1. Deed of the Governor of Virginia to the United States, given under the Act of Virginia of April 21, 1882.
2. Deed of Thomas E. Atkins, Commissioner appointed by the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to the United States, dated May 29, 1882.
3. Deed of Ella B. Washburn and others to the United States, dated April 11, 1882.
4. Deed of James B. Washington and wife to the United States, dated May 22, 1882.

These deeds pass valid title to the lands covered thereby.

The remainder of the premises, including the right of way, is embraced in the draft of a deed from John E. Wilson and wife to the United States. When executed this instrument will be sufficient to pass a valid title. It is noted that Virginia has ceded jurisdiction and exempted the lands from taxation.

[U. S. Department of State, Vol. 5, Reports of Bureau Officers, 1874-1888]

1838 October 8. Chancery suit by Executors of Daniel Payne against Charles C. Jett. Jett bought from Payne under contract. Payne died leaving all to daughter Betty S. Payne, a minor. Lawrence W. Berry, guardian, is directed to convey Wakefield and Duck Hall to Jett. Deed dated October 8, 1838.

1838 October 12. Charles C. Jett and Mary W. Jett, his wife: deed of trust to Patrick C. Robb, Trustee, for Wakefield and Duck Hall. Jett indebted to Executors of Payne $20,634 on purchase price. Chancery suit, Washington vs. Jett.

1843 May 6. Patrick C. Robb, Trustee, conveys to James H. Payne, Lawrence Washington, William L. Payne, Executors of Daniel Payne, Wakefield and Duck Hall, which had been conveyed to him by Jett.

1846 April 11. Said Executors convey to J. F. Wilson Wakefield and Duck Hall.

1867 July 30. John F. Wilson conveys to John E. Wilson Wakefield and Duck Hall.

1912 John E. Wilson's will probated in Westmoreland Co. Gives to wife, Bettie W. Wilson all real and personal property for life; then to five children equally (except Cabin Point).

Lizzie D. Edgerton
Susan W. Latané
Etta W. Wilson
William Wilson
Lawrence W. Wilson

with power to sell real estate with the advice and consent of any three children.

Chancery suit William Wilson et al against John F. Edgerton et al. Bill shows real estate comprised farms of Duck Hall and Wakefield was sold by wife, with the consent of Susan W. Latané, Etta W. Wilson and William Wilson, to James Latané and William C. Latané, for $30,000. cash; 1099.5 acres. Deed in escrow to be delivered upon payment. Wife died before delivery. Decree entered confirming sale. Deed dated January 4, 1921. Recorded December 1, 1923.

Note. There are numbers of deeds from John E. Wilson, conveying lands in Wakefield Barrens, woodland far back from the River, and one deed to the United States, conveying land at Washington's birthplace and right of way to a point on Potomac (Bridges Creek).

COPY

October 27, 1926.

Dear Commander Wheeler:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, approved the project which you submitted for the Coast Guard World War Memorial, designed by Mr. George Howe, Architect, of Philadelphia, to be placed in the Arlington National Cemetery. The Commission suggest that Mr. Howe submit a landscape plan for the memorial area.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Commander W. J. Wheeler, Chairman,
Coast Guard World War Memorial Committee,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT A

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Cram and Ferguson, Architects, for the chapel to be erected at Belleau Wood.

The Commission do not favor the erection of a structure of the ecclesiastical type of architecture. Retaining the tower-like effect for the main part of the building, it could have an apse in the rear, as suggested by the enclosed sketch. The building should set back somewhat from the "edge" of the crest.

The Commission would have the chapel built on the military crest, as the logical place for it. The approach of steps should be set against the hill. A low terrace wall may be built to bring the graves sections together.

The Commission regard the designs submitted as being preliminary, and desire that the suggestions above stated be considered as the basis of a new design to be submitted for further consideration.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Cram and Ferguson, Architects, for the chapel to be erected at Oisne Aisne (Fere-en-Tardenois).

The Commission do not favor the erection of a structure of the ecclesiastical type of architecture. Retaining the tower-like effect of Scheme A for the main part of the building, it could have an apse in the rear. The chapel should not be built in the open space in the center of the cemetery, nor should there be two motives of chapel and flagpole.

The Commission regard the designs submitted as being preliminary, and desire that the suggestions above stated be considered as the basis of a new design to be submitted for further consideration.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT C

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by York and Sawyer for the chapel to be erected at Romagne (Meuse Argonne).

The Commission recognized the fact that this is the largest of the American Cemeteries in Europe, and called for a large structure in the site selected for the chapel. The Commission favored the arcade, and the simple terminal motives, suggested by Scheme marked (3), but favored a central motive as suggested by Scheme marked (2). The Commission felt that the French Romanesque style of architecture would be appropriate for this chapel.

The Commission regard the designs submitted as being preliminary, and would have the suggestions above stated made the basis for a new design.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Thomas Harlan Ellett, Architect, for the chapel to be erected at Thiaucourt, France.

The Commission favor design B, as the basis for further study and resubmission to the Commission for approval.

There is no objection to the enclosing walls if they will protect the Cemetery, but the Commission would have additional trees planted along the walls so as to bring the adjacent woodland into the scheme and frame the Cemetery.

The entrance to the Cemetery should be re-designed, as suggested by the architect, so as to eliminate the existing ordinary cement pavement.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT E.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Dr. Paul P. Cret for the chapel to be erected at Waereghem, Belgium (Flanders Field).

The Commission favor design C. There is a simplicity and charm to it that makes it altogether appropriate. At the present time the structure might be considered somewhat high, but it should be kept in mind that the trees in the locality will in a few years rise to a height of 30 feet.

Suitable sculpture over the entrance to the building is suggested.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT F.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Egerton Swartwout, Architect, for the chapel to be erected at Brookwood, England.

The Commission expressed their preference for design A. The location proposed for the chapel is favored by the Commission. A low flagpole, instead of the existing one, is preferred, with a large American flag similar in size to the flags in front of St. Mark's, Venice.

The existing building should be screened with planting, as suggested by the architect in his letter.

The Commission regard the designs submitted as being preliminary, and would have scheme A made the basis for further study and resubmitted for approval.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major K. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 14, 1926, considered the designs prepared by Mellor, Meigs, and Howe, Architects, of Philadelphia, for the chapel to be erected at Bony, France.

The Commission feel that owing to the location of this cemetery, practically in an open field, special attention should be given, possibly first of all, to a frame for the cemetery. This should consist of a wall built around the cemetery, with the chapel probably at the entrance to it, though after the wall is built the chapel might be placed at other suitable locations within the enclosure. A sketch is attached, suggesting a treatment which would be appropriate for Bony.

The suggested design for the chapel is acceptable to the Commission.

The Commission regard the designs submitted as being preliminary and would have the suggestions above stated made the basis for a new design.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major K. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H.

COPY

October 16, 1926.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926, inspected the designs prepared by Dr. Paul P. Cret for a World War Memorial at Chateau Thierry, France. The Commission expressed their preference for design A, which was approved.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major X. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I.

COPY

October 6, 1926

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Moore.

I called on Mr. Wallace, Executive Secretary of the American Engineering Council, yesterday, and secured from him the attached copy of their report regarding the Patent Office. From my talk with him I feel positive that something should be done to provide improved quarters for the Patent Office. Mr. Wallace stated that his committee spent 18 months in the preparation of the report, which was made after an exhaustive study of existing conditions at the Patent Office. He said his committee consisted of 9 Patent Attorneys of the city, representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Engineering Council, and others. Mr. Wallace said the existing Patent Office could not be remodeled without an expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars, and even then it would not be the best kind of building for this purpose. There are now fully 1,000 employes in the 9th and F Street building. About 204,777 sq. ft. in the building.

Mr. Wallace told me confidentially that he would prefer to see the Patent Office located in a separate and distinct new building, but that the Patent Attorneys would not object to going to the proposed site of the Department of Commerce building, at Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Street, where the Patent Office could be made to comprise a unit of the new building. Attached is additxional correspondence from him on the subject. He suggests 300,000 square feet, which I should say would mean a structure approximately 350 x 300 feet and 3 stories high.

H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Total number of employes in the Patent Office Sept.30--1,191, of which about 150 are in the Old Land office Building.

EXHIBIT J.

COPY

October 18, 1926.

Dear Colonel Sherrill:

The landscape design for Fountain Square, in Cincinnati, which you submitted with your letter of October 8th, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926.

The Commission regard the panels of turf as proposed in the design very suitable, provided they are well kept and the public is kept from walking on them and using them as a thoroughfare,--in such case it would be better to use small shrubbery.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill,

City Manager,

Cincinnati, Ohio.

EXHIBIT K.

COPY

October 21, 1926.

Dear Major Grant:

Your letter of September 29th, stating that it is the desire of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to acquire the tract designated as Fort Slocum Park, including a certain area adjacent, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926.

The Commission made an inspection of this tract and approve the acquisition as proposed, as part of the Fort Drive. The great importance of the Fort Drive as a connection between the Anacostia Park and the Rock Creek Park is well recognized, and in view of the building projects under way in the locality it is to be hoped that the remainder of the land needed to complete this project can be acquired just as soon as possible.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major U. S. Grant 3d, Executive Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L.

COPY

October 22, 1926.

Dear Major Grant:

Your letter of September 20th, stating that it is the desire of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to acquire for park purposes the site of Fort Stanton, in Anacostia, including certain adjacent lots, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 14, 1926.

The Commission made an inspection of this tract and approve its acquisition for park purposes as proposed. The Commission agree that from the site of Fort Stanton one of the finest views may be obtained overlooking the rivers and the City of Washington.

In connection with laying out a plan for the park, the Commission suggest that provision be made for a drive or parkway as a more direct approach to Nichols Avenue.

For the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major U. S. Grant 3d, Executive Officer,
National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT M.